



Application No: GB0523075.0

Examiner: D. P. Harness

Claims searched: 1-6 & 26-29(pages 33-34)

Date of search: 12 January 2006

Patents Act 1977: Search Report under Section 17

Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Relevant to claims	Identity of document and passage or figure of particular relevance
X,E	1-6 (pages 33 & 34) & 26-29	GB2400393 A (ENVENTURE GLOBAL TECHNOLOGY) See whole document, particularly figures 10a-11b.
A	1	WO2003/069115 A (BAKER HUGHES INC.) See whole document particularly figures 8-10.
A	1	GB2404680 A (WEATHERFORD LAMB) See particularly figure 1 and abstract.
A	1	US3999605 A (BRADDICK) See summary of invention and figures.
A	1	US3631926 A (SCHLUMBERGER) See summary of invention and figures.

Categories:

X	Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A	Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
Y	Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P	Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
&	Member of the same patent family	E	Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.

Field of Search:

Search of GB, EP, WO & US patent documents classified in the following areas of the UKC^X:

E1F

Worldwide search of patent documents classified in the following areas of the IPC

E21B

The following online and other databases have been used in the preparation of this search report

WPI, EPDOC, PAJ



Your ref :	P102941GB03/ASG	Examiner :	D. P. Harness
Application No:	GB0523075.0	Tel :	01633 813502
Applicant :	Enventure Global Technology	Date of report :	13 January 2006
Latest date for reply:	15 May 2006	Page 1/3	

Patents Act 1977
Examination Report under Section 18(3)

Allowance of the divisional date

1. Your request that this application be treated as having been filed on 12 June 2003, which is the same date of filing as your earlier application number GB0500275.3, has been allowed. Once any formality objections have been met, publication of this divisional application will proceed.

Plurality of invention

2. Your claims define a number of separate inventions not forming a single inventive concept. The inventions are:

- i) An apparatus for radially expanding and plastically deforming an expandable tubular member, as defined in claims 1-6 (pages 33 & 34) and claims 26-29.
- ii) An apparatus for radially expanding and plastically deforming an expandable tubular member, as defined in independent claim 1 (page 35).
- iii) An apparatus for radially expanding and plastically deforming an expandable tubular member, as defined in independent claim 21.
- iv) A collapsible expansion cone assembly, as defined in independent claim 22.
- v) A collapsible expansion cone assembly, as defined in independent claim 25.
- vi) A collapsible expansion cone assembly, as defined in independent claim 30.
- viii) A method of radially expanding and plastically deforming an expandable tubular member, as defined in independent claim 39.

You will need to amend your claims, so that they relate to only one invention or inventive concept. You will also need to make consequential amendments to the description.

Scope of search

3. In accordance with Section 17(6), only the first of these inventions has been searched.



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[Examination Report contd.]

Novelty

4. The invention as defined in claim 1-6 (pages 33 & 34) & 26-29 is not new because it has already been disclosed in each of the following documents:

GB2400393* A (ENVENTURE GLOBAL TECHNOLOGY) See whole document, particularly figures 10a-11b.

5. No amendment of your claim 1-6 (pages 33 & 34) & 26-29 will be needed in respect of the document marked * if you can show that the priority date of your invention is not later than the priority date of the relevant disclosure in that document.

What this report covers

6. I have not been able to consider the novelty or obviousness of the unsearched inventions, although the above document may well be relevant.

Clarity

7. There are currently two sets of claims on file, these should be renumbered to form a single set. The statement of invention should also be brought into line with the claims.

8. Since claim 34 is a not claim to a method, claim 40 is obscure since it refers to the "method of claim 34".

9. Your application fails to comply with Section 14(5) of the Act (see MOPP paragraph 14.140) owing to the presence of a number of independent claims of overlapping scope. The claims should be revised in accordance with the standard British format of a single independent claim for each category (e.g. apparatus and the method) followed by a series of appendant claims. †

10. The final paragraph of the description suggests that the scope of the invention is not limited by the claims. Consequently, the scope of the invention is obscured and amendment appears necessary in this respect.

11. Amendment made to the claims by way of clarification may necessitate similar revision of the corresponding paragraphs of the description.

† [This issue is covered in a *Code of Practice for patent applicants and agents* which the Patent Office published on 31 March 2004 as part of the Manual of Patent Practice. An online summary of the Code can be seen at <http://www.patent.gov.uk/patent/reference/index.htm> and I direct your attention to Code point 1 - relating to the structure of the claims filed and Code point 8- relating to the filing of divisional applications. You can help us to work more effectively by observing the Code points.]



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[Examination Report contd.]

Non-metric units

12. The equivalent metric values should be given alongside the non-metric values mentioned on page 18 of your specification.

Conflict with corresponding GB Patent Applications

13. Care should be taken when amending the claims to clearly distinguish the claims of this application from those of the parent application GB 0500275.3, and corresponding divisional applications GB0523076.8, GB0523078.4, & GB0523132.9, so that conflict of claims does not occur.